

### Remarks

Claims 1, 4-6, 14-17, and 19-23 were previously pending in the application. After entry of the response Claims 1, 4-6, 14-17, and 19-23 will be pending. Reconsideration is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

### Allowable Subject Matter

Preliminary, Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 1 and 4-6 are allowable, and that Claim 22 would be allowable if rewritten independent form and to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### Claim Rejection 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 14 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Takeda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,224,421), herein referred to as "Takeda".

Of the above-referenced claims, Claim 14 is independent. Accordingly, once allowability of that claim is established, all claims depending therefrom are likewise allowable.

In rejecting Claim 14 the Examiner indicated that Takeda discloses a first passivation layer (protect layer 43); a pixel electrode (13) having a cut-out (slit 21); and a protrusion (20C) disposed in the cut-out (21).

Applicants respectfully disagree.

As shown in the Figures 53H-53J, process steps for producing the TFT substrate according to the eighth embodiment shown in Figure 52, a passivation film is formed (Figure 53H), an ITO film 34 is formed (Figure 53I), and a pixel electrode 13 is formed by the photolithography method. Slits are further formed (Figure 53J). "According to this embodiment as described above, the protrusion 20C is formed in the slit 21 of the pixel

electrode 13”. In this regard, as clearly shown, the passivation film of Figure 53H forms the protrusions 20C of the substrate 17 shown in Figure 53J. As such, in contrast to Applicants’ claimed thin film transistor array panel comprising a passivation layer and “a protrusion formed directly on at least a portion of the first passivation layer”, i.e., separate elements, and shown in Applicants’ Figures 4 and 33, Takeda discloses only a protruding passivation film.

In other words, Takeda does not disclose, teach, or otherwise suggest “**a first passivation layer** formed on the data line and the drain electrode and having a contact hole exposing the drain electrode at least in part; **a pixel electrode formed directly on the first passivation layer** and connected to the drain electrode through the contact hole, the pixel electrode having a cutout; **and a protrusion formed directly on at least a portion of the first passivation layer** and disposed in the cutout at least in part” (emphasis added) as recited in Applicants’ Claim 14.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit the Sasaki and Nonaka alone or in combination with Takeda do not disclose, teach, or otherwise suggest Applicants’ claimed subject matter.

For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit independent Claim 14 and all claims depending therefrom are patentable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 15-17 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda in view of Sasaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,038,006), herein referred to as "Sasaki".

Claims 9 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda in view of Sasaki, and further in view of Nonaka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,897,918), herein referred to as "Nonaka".

For at least the reasons set forth above in regard to Claim 14, Applicants respectfully submit and all claims depending therefrom are patentable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Authorization is given to charge any fees due or credit any overpayments in regard to this communication to deposit account 50-2257. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned at (949) 752-7040 is welcomed and encouraged.

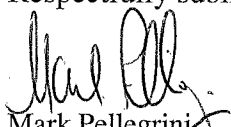
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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